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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The beans cannot be used as fertilizers since the cost would be prohibitive."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister, how many deaths were caused on account of these beans being taken by people in this province? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Six deaths and 82 cases of poisoning were reported."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know whether this Government will bring this matter through the Government of India to the notice of the Burma Government so that the importers of these beans could be compensated for the loss? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I shall have the matter considered, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Dearness allowance to teachers under private management.

22 *Q.*—SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that teachers in some schools and colleges under private managements are not getting the dearness allowance at Government rates; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to see that the teachers under private management get the dearness allowance at Government rates?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It is not possible to compel the managements to grant dearness allowance at Government rates, if their financial position does not permit such payment. In order to afford relief to those teachers who get the allowance at rates lower than those admissible to Government servants in corresponding grades, the Government have undertaken to pay a special grant equal to one half of the difference between the maximum amount of allowance admissible at Government rates and the amount of allowance actually paid by the managements of institutions to the staff and the managements are required to disburse to the staff the amount of allowance due out of this special grant.

The Director of Public Instruction has been authorized to investigate into the financial position of the managements, to satisfy himself whether their financial resources would permit the payment of the allowance at Government rates, and if so to direct them to do so. If even after the issue of such a direction, the managements persist in not paying the allowance at Government rates, the teaching grant payable to the managements will be withheld in full

or in part. The refusal to pay the allowance at Government rates by managements which do not receive any teaching grant, will be considered as a valid reason for withdrawal of recognition. The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to submit necessary amendments to the Grant-in-Aid Code to give effect to the above decision.

Adoption of Central Government's standards as regards pay and retiring age.

23 *Q.*—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to extend the service of Government officers who are completing the age of 55 till they will be 58 as the Central Government have decided to do;

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to give the benefit of the new scales of pay to Government officers who will retire in 1947, 1948 and 1949 by calculating their pension on the enhanced scales instead of their three years average pay on old scales;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the negative, whether the Government have considered the matter;

(*d*) whether there is any proposal to increase the dearness allowance to Government officers in our province on the scales adopted by the Central Government; and

(*e*) if the answer to (*d*) is in the negative, whether the Government have considered the matter as all the officers belonging to the Provincial and Central Government are equally affected by the present high prices in the country?

A.—(*a*) Government are not aware of any such decision by the Central Government. The reference is perhaps to the recommendation of the Central Pay Commission. The question whether there is any need for alteration in the age of compulsory retirement so far as servants of this Government are concerned is still under examination.

(*b*) & (*c*) Officers retiring in 1947–49 will receive the benefit of the revised scales to the extent that in calculating average emoluments for purposes of pension, the enhanced pay drawn in the revised scales with effect from 1st January 1947 will be taken into account. The Government, after careful consideration, have come to the decision that no special pensionary concession can be granted.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Government after careful consideration have come to the conclusion that, in view of the present financial position of the province, an increase in the existing rates of allowance is not possible. The rates of dearness allowance have in fact been recently revised in the light of the orders issued by the Government of India in respect of their officers, and the result of the revision will be a slight reduction of the allowance in the case of higher paid officers.

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Representation of women in official and non-official committees.

24 Q.—Mrs. MARY CLUBWALA: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether in view of the great disappointment that is felt by the women of Madras in the attitude of the Madras Government in not having given adequate representation to women on important official and non-official committees, dealing with matters vitally concerning the welfare of the country—social, economic and medical—the Government propose to consider the desirability of including women in these bodies?

A.—A list [a] of committees on which women are presented is placed on the table of the House. The question whether women can be usefully represented on other committees to be formed will be considered when they are constituted.

Villages supplied with electric power.

25 Q.—Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the villages talukwar, in the several districts which are supplied with electric power till the end of June 1947; and

(*b*) the number of applications together with the names of the villages, talukwar, in the several districts for connection of wells with the supply of electric power (i) which have been refused, (ii) which are pending; and the reasons for such refusal or pendency?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) From the reports so far received the Government observe that the statement to be placed on the table of the House will be voluminous and they do not consider it worthwhile to print and place such voluminous statements on the table of the House. Information in respect of any particular village will be given to such hon. Members as may ask for it.

Mineral resources of the province.

26 Q.—Sri B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the mineral resources of each district and the nature thereof; and

(*b*) what steps the Government contemplate to develop such resources and what handicaps, if any, there exist for the development of such resources and how the Government propose to overcome these handicaps?

A.—(*a*) A statement [b] is placed on the table.

(*b*) The Government have constituted a planning Committee on Industries to chalk out an industrial policy for this province. The report of this Committee which will doubtless deal with the development of mineral resources is awaited.

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[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 737 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix IX on page 738 infra.